



The Missouri Triangle: Arches, Ozarks & Jazz

A 9-day adventure through the Heart of America

Begins in St. Louis – finishes Kansas City



*Get ready to explore Missouri's most iconic trio — from the soaring **Gateway Arch** in St. Louis, to the wild beauty of the **Ozark Mountains**, and the soulful sounds of **Kansas City jazz**. This triangle isn't just geography — it's a journey through music, nature, and culture that captures the heart of America in every stop.*

Day 1: Arrival in St. Louis

After a long flight, nothing beats refreshing yourself and stepping out to explore the vibrant city of St. Louis. Begin your adventure with a visit to **Gateway Arch National Park**, where you can take a tram ride to the top and take in sweeping views of Mississippi River and the city skyline. And don't skip the Museum under the Gateway Arch for an educational and entertaining telling of the pioneers who shaped the nation.

Just across the street, is the historic **Old Courthouse** — a significant landmark in civil rights history. Step back in time and discover the powerful stories that shaped America's history. It was here that the pivotal Dred and Harriet Scott case was first heard, a decision that challenged the nation on the issue of slavery and helped set the stage for the Civil War.

Overnight: St. Louis

Day 2: Explore St. Louis

St. Louis is a city full of surprises, offering lively neighborhoods each with their own character — like the Italian charm of The Hill, the eclectic shops and music clubs of the Delmar Loop, and the historic charm of Soulard. Food lovers can dive into St. Louis style barbeque, famous for its sweet, tangy sauce. As night falls, the city comes alive with the soulful sounds of the blues, carrying on a tradition that's been part of St. Louis' heartbeat for generations.



Forest Park

Larger than New York's Central Park, Forest Park is a green oasis filled with museums, lakes, and scenic trails. Whether you're exploring the world-class **Saint Louis Zoo**, strolling through art galleries at the **Saint Louis Art Museum**, or walking back in time at the **Missouri History Museum**, this iconic park invites you to slow down and savor the beauty of St. Louis.

Missouri Botanical Gardens

Step into a living masterpiece at the **Missouri Botanical Garden**, one of the oldest and most renowned botanical gardens in the world. Wander through a tranquil Japanese Garden, marvel at the futuristic Climaltron rainforest dome, and discover breathtaking floral displays that change with the seasons.

National Blues Museum

Celebrate America's music at the **National Blues Museum**, where interactive exhibits and powerful stories showcase the roots of rock, soul, and jazz. With live performances and immersive displays, you'll feel the rhythm that helped shape St. Louis and the world.

Ted Drewes Frozen Custard

No trip to St. Louis is complete without a stop at Ted Drewes, a Route 66 legend since the 1920s. Their concretes – so thick they're served upside down – are a must try treat!

Cathedral Basilica

Marvel at the **Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis**, home to one of the world's largest mosaic collections. Explore its soaring domes and intricate artwork, then visit the **Mosaic Museum** for a deeper look. It's a peaceful, awe-inspiring stop that blends history, art, and sacred beauty.

Anheuser Busch Brewery

Step into history at the flagship **Anheuser-Busch Brewery**, founded in the 1850s and still thriving in its grand red-brick buildings. Take a guided tour—from seed to glass—exploring brewing innovation and even tasting beer straight from the finishing cellars.

Make sure you check out the famous Clydesdale horses while you're there and end your visit at the Biergarten, wrapping up the tour with a complimentary cold one and a chance to unwind in true St. Louis style.

Overnight: St. Louis

Day 3: St. Louis to Saint Robert (130 miles)

Set out on your first big stretch along historic Route 66, enjoying the rolling Missouri countryside and iconic roadside stops. Explore the legendary **Meramec Caverns**, spot the colorful murals of **Cuba**, and savor smoky barbeque before arriving in Saint Robert. In the evening, enjoy a meal at Hopper's Pub right on 66 and then stroll through the glowing **Route 66 Neon Park** to end your night.

Meramec Caverns

Discovered in the 18th century and popularized as a Route 66 attraction in the 1930s, Meramec Caverns offers spectacular underground formations and a dose of outlaw legend with its ties to Jesse James.



Cuba, Missouri

Known as the “**Route 66 Mural City**,” Cuba features more than a dozen large outdoor murals depicting local history. Also home to the **Wagon Wheel Motel** – the longest, continuously operating motor court along Route 66. It’s a colorful and photo worthy roadside stop.

Route 66 Neon Park

This unique park features restored vintage neon signs that once lit up Route 66 businesses. Walking among them feels like stepping back in time.

Overnight: Saint Robert

Day 4: Saint Robert to Springfield (95 miles)

Hit the road for another stretch of classic Route 66, where each stop feels like stepping into a piece of Americana. In Lebanon, uncover the nostalgia of the **Route 66 Museum**, then snap a photo at the colorful vintage gas station, **Gary’s Gay Parita**. Once in Springfield – the official birthplace of Route 66 – dive into history at the fascinating **History Museum on the Square** and admire over 70 gleaming classics at the **Route 66 Car Museum**. Cap off your day at Civil Kitchen, where the energy of Springfield keeps the Mother Road spirit alive.

Gary’s Gay Parita

A lovingly restored Sinclair service station, Gary’s Gay Parita is a Route 66 landmark filled with signs, antiques, and stories. Travelers are greeted with warm hospitality and photo opportunities galore.

History Museum on the Square

This museum brings the story of Springfield and Route 66 to life with interactive exhibits, telling the tale of the road’s official birthplace.

Route 66 Car Museum

Featuring more than 70 classic automobiles, this museum showcases everything from luxury cars to famous Hollywood vehicles.

Overnight: Springfield

Day 5: Springfield to Branson (55 miles)

A short, but scenic drive, brings you from Springfield into the heart of the Ozarks with plenty to enjoy along the way. Stop at the beautifully restored **Ozark Mill at Finley Farms**, then roll into Branson for a day packed with excitement. Climb aboard a **Pink Jeep Tour** to see the hills from a whole new perspective, explore the glittering attractions along **Highway 76**, and end the evening with a dinner cruise on sparkling **Table Rock Lake** – an unforgettable Ozark sunset included.

Ozark Mill at Finley Farms

This beautifully restored riverside mill blends Ozark history with modern dining. Guests enjoy farm-to-table meals in a scenic, historic setting.



Highway 76

Known as Branson's Entertainment Strip, Highway 76 is the beating heart of the city's fun-filled attractions. Here, you can step aboard the Titanic Museum for an immersive journey back to 1912, marvel at sea life at the dazzling Aquarium at the Boardwalk and catch world-class live shows in the many theatres that line the strip.

Silver Dollar City

Step into the 1880s at **Silver Dollar City**, where thrilling rides meet artisan crafts and old-time charm. From roller coasters to live shows and legendary BBQ, it's a full day of Ozark-style fun!

Overnight: Branson

Day 6: Branson

Today is all about getting outside and soaking up the beauty of the Ozarks! Start at the breathtaking **Top of the Rock**, where you can journey through a cave with cascading waterfalls and visit the bat bar all from the comfort of a golf cart. Explore the fascinating **Ancient Ozarks Natural History Museum** and enjoy a memorable meal with lake views. In the afternoon, head to **Table Rock Lake** for kayaking, paddleboarding, fishing, or simply relaxing on the water.

Table Rock Lake

Built in the 1950s with the construction of Table Rock Dam, the lake has become one of Missouri's most beloved recreation area. Table Rock Lake offers endless opportunities for fun on the water, from kayaking and paddleboarding to fishing and boating.

Overnight: Branson

Day 7: Branson to Kansas City (250 miles)

Today you will take a scenic road trip through the stunning Ozarks, where rolling hills and charming small towns create the perfect backdrop for your journey. Arriving in lively Kansas City, you'll dive into a vibrant urban scene filled with world-class jazz, mouthwatering barbeque, and buzzing neighborhoods. Get out, stretch your legs, and explore Kansas City.

Kansas City Streetcar

This modern transit option serves Union Station, the Crossroads Arts District, the Power and Light District, the city's central business district, and the historic River Market/City Market along with numerous other businesses, restaurants, art galleries, educational facilities, and neighborhoods. The KC Streetcar has 16 stops spaced every two blocks for both northbound and southbound travel.

Power & Light District

A lively downtown hub filled with restaurants, bars, and live entertainment venues.

Kansas City and Jazz

Kansas City swings to life after dark with its legendary jazz scene – catch smooth sounds at iconic spots like **The Blue Room**, the historic **Green Lady Lounge**, and the lively **Mutual Musicians Foundation**, where the music often plays until dawn.



Overnight: Kansas City

Day 8: Kansas City

See the sights and take in the unexpected delights of Kansas City.

Steamboat Arabia Museum

This fascinating museum displays the cargo of a steamboat that sank in 1856 and was unearthed 132 years later, perfectly preserved. A true time capsule, showcasing an astonishing collection of 19th-century artifacts – from tools to clothing, canned goods and buttons, everything you would need for life on the frontier.

River Market

Kansas City's oldest public market, offering fresh produce, international foods, and unique local shops.

National World War I Museum and Memorial

Recognized as the nation's official WWI museum, it houses one of the largest collections of Great War artifacts in the world. The Liberty Memorial tower offers breathtaking views of Kansas City. In addition to its main gallery and the Wylie Gallery, the experience includes Memory Hall and Exhibit Hall which host exhibits and commemorative displays, plus the iconic Liberty Memorial Tower, offering sweeping views of Kansas City.

Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

This powerful museum chronicles the history of African American baseball and the athletes who paved the way for integration.

American Jazz Museum

Celebrating Kansas City's role in the evolution of jazz, the museum features exhibits, listening stations, and historic artifacts.

Overnight: Kansas City

Day 9: Departure from Kansas City

Breakfast at a local café before heading to Kansas City International Airport for your flight home.